

HARLEM RAT PLAGUED BY MANY MONSTER RATS.



The New Harlem Rat and Some of His Doings.

In a flat in Manhattan avenue a swarm of giant rats has appeared. They have gnawed the water pipes and flooded the house; they have stolen food from the kitchen and from cooking stoves; they have tugged at women's skirts and have been seen in places which lead people to think they must have prehensile tails.

Bigger, Fiercer, More Voracious Than Any Before Known.

FIGHT BACK AT WOMEN.

Return at Night and Carry Off the Bodies of Their Dead and Wounded.

Rats, innumerable, large, calm, persistent, have been in complete possession for two weeks of the flat house at No. 17 Manhattan avenue.

There is nothing funny about the story which the plucky dwellers of those flats tell—the rats have come near causing tragedies. They have cut plumbing and flooded the house; they have tugged at women's skirts in the dark; they have dragged away the carcasses of roast chickens; they have climbed into the beds of sleeping persons; they have sent the more timid of the women into deadly swoons; they have run, with the clamor and shouts of an invading army, between the walls, making night hideous.

The Board of Health has received an appeal and has done what it could. Cats, fox terriers, ferrets have been sent after the villainous tribe, which, retreating before the invaders with shrieking, mocking laughter, returns upon their departure, weakening and spreading redoubled havoc through the apartments.

These rats are sui generis. Nothing like them has ever been seen before. They have no fear. They have no conscience. They have no hesitation. They are as bold as lions and as cunning as foxes. They are as voracious as the most ferocious of beasts. They are as persistent as the most determined of men. They are as calm as the most collected of generals. They are as persistent as the most determined of men. They are as calm as the most collected of generals.

In proof of this, the Manhattan avenue rat is found on top of tables with straight smooth legs; crawling along pipes on the ceiling, "skinning the cat" on canisters, and accompanying other feats outside of the rat case. The rat is larger and is believed to be prehistoric.

Strangely, this rat house is almost brand new. Most of the tenants have been here two months. This is another proof that the rats are of a new and hitherto unheard of type. Two weeks ago, with scarcely any warning, the rats began to invade in large numbers from their hiding places.

Mrs. Charles B. McClellan, who, on the whole, is Miss Helen Dunbar, now of the Casino company, tells her own experiences as follows: "Last Friday evening I went into the kitchen, which was dark. I felt very nervous. I thought to be a hand tugging at my skirt. I was alone and awfully frightened. I lit the gas, and there was a great, gray, grinning rat, still holding to the hem of my garment. I had to beat it off."

Two or three days ago the cook roasted a chicken. Just as she was leaving, we heard a great noise, which we took for burglars. We ran back to the kitchen. A half dozen rats were carrying away the carcass. We had to kill one of them before the rats would leave. We left the dead rat in the kitchen to show to my husband. When he came home, we discovered that the other rats had borne the dead one away.

At last Sunday the right side of the house was flooded and water ran all day. The bed linen had been chewed into by these horrible creatures. Mrs. F. F. Crandall, who lives on the fourth floor, invited her sister to spend the night. After midnight the sister awoke, and there was a monstrous gray rat in the bed. She fainted. She was in a serious condition for an hour, and was taken all from the shock. The complaint of the tenants was directed to President of the Board of Health, who at once dispatched inspectors to kill the invaders. The rats kept fleeing out of the way, and smiled sardonically at the officers from their dark crannies.

MRS. WILMERDING'S FREE AT LAST.

On Leaving the Asylum She Chooses Her Lawyer as Her Escort.

COOL TO FRANKLIN ALLEN.

Justice Keogh Ruled That It Was for Her to Choose Her Companion.

GOES TO NEW JERSEY TO REST.

Says It Seems So Good to Be Free Again and She Feels Better Than She Did Before Her Incarceration.

Marie Fatima Wilmerding, the granddaughter of Commodore Vanderbilt, was released from Bloomingdale Insane Asylum yesterday, radiantly happy and a little plumper than when she entered as a patient last February to be treated for a mental disorder, brought on by drinking much wine and smoking cigarettes inordinately.

But with the same spirit that brought forth a ready retort when Jack Wilmerding threw a plate of ice in her face at Delmonico's, she haughtily commanded which of two men should be her escort.

"It seems so good to be free again," she cried impulsively, as she stood in the sunlight on the asylum steps and looked back at the grated window through which she had peered pensively not an hour before.

"I feel so well, even better than when I entered that place," and she invited, with defiant glance, any one to galsay that she was not a woman possessed of all her faculties when her guardians placed her in the asylum.

"Aside from the knowledge that I was not free," she continued, "my time has not been spent unpleasantly. The treatment has been kind and beneficial. I am sure. I had the papers to read, all the matter pertaining to my case being out, however, and have entered into all the social distractions which are afforded the patients."

"It was a harsh measure, sending me here, but no doubt my nuncio thought it was for the best. As for the future, I cannot say. I shall take an absolute rest for several weeks, staying with friends and moving from place to place."

The morning had been one of excitement for her counsel, Louis P. Levy, and her uncle, Franklin Allen. They contended with equal vigor as to which of them should escort Mrs. Wilmerding from the asylum.

Justice Keogh was appealed to. Mr. Allen asked for an interpretation of the Justice's ruling, which was that she should be escorted by Mr. Allen.

The judge replied that, while the guardianship of the uncles still existed, it remained with Mrs. Wilmerding herself to select her escort.

Mr. Allen, debonair and dressed with taste, and a near relative withal, bowed to the justice with easy confidence. They stepped together into a closed carriage, sat side by side and many a silent during the ride to Bloomingdale.

They entered the private office of Superintendent Lyon, and a maid was sent to summon Mr. Allen. He came, and Mrs. Wilmerding was escorted to the car.

She was dressed in a black tailor-made suit, with a bell-shaped skirt and tight-fitting jacket. Her hair was styled in a bun. She wore heavy tan, and shiny French-heeled shoes were protected by black gaiters.

"Good morning, Marie," he said fervently. "Good morning, Uncle Franklin," she answered. Her salutation to her lawyer was conventional. The far honor was to her.

There was a brief silence, which Dr. Lyon broke by asking: "Do you desire to accompany you, Mrs. Wilmerding?"

"My lawyer has made arrangements for me, I believe," she said sweetly to her uncle.

Mr. Allen called a carriage and drove to the station with Dr. Lyon. Mrs. Wilmerding and her lawyer were left alone. She took the 1 o'clock train for New York.

Mr. Allen sat alone in the forward part of the car, while Mrs. Wilmerding and Mr. Levy sat in the rear. The train stopped at the station, and Mrs. Wilmerding walked through the car, passed Mrs. Wilmerding, and she took the train for New Jersey.

Outside the Grand Central station she was waiting. As Mrs. Wilmerding passed her, she saw that she was not alone. She extended her hand. She grasped it, and the two walked thus for a dozen steps. Then she turned and looked back at her.

At the ferry Mrs. Wilmerding was met by a woman friend, who accompanied her to New Jersey and will be her companion until she is placed in the care of other loyal friends.

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WOMAN IN A FURY ROASTS A LIVING CAT IN HER COOKING RANGE.



Mrs. Mary Fusser, Who Roasted a Cat Alive.

The woman, in her own saloon, grabbed the animal and threw it into the bed of coals in the range in the rear of her place, where it was roasted to death. She was arrested yesterday and held in \$300 bail for trial.

Angered at the Antics of Her Pet, She Puts It on the Hot Coals.

Mrs. Mary Fusser, of No. 137 West Thirty-third street, deliberately roasted a cat in her cooking range on Monday, and when arrested for the brutal act she seemed to be without a sign of compunction. She keeps a saloon at that number. Ernest Felsen, the bartender, was serving customers, among whom was Albert Buschel, of No. 351 Seventh avenue.

The cat, a small gray animal, little more than a kitten, was playing about the room and receiving the caresses of the men who sat taking their beer at the small tables.

A plate with slices of bread in it had been left on one of the vacant tables. In its frisking about the cat seized a piece of the bread and began playing with it.

Mrs. Fusser saw it, and, picking up a piece of coal, threw it at Tabby. Felsen called her to stop and she became furious at his reproof. She replied with an oath, according to the customer, Buschel, who stood near. Suddenly the woman stooped over and, picking up the cat, walked quickly with it toward the range, in the rear corner.

The men who were watching her did not realize what she was about to do until she had removed the lid and was holding the cat over the blazing coals. Then Buschel shouted at her to stop, but the woman was white with rage, and still muttering in German she thrust the writhing animal into the flames. Then she calmly replaced the cover and the sickened spectators heard the crackling and sizzling of the burning body.

Buschel went next day to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and reported the case. Agent A. S. Evans swore out a warrant in the West Fifth-fourth street court and went down to arrest the woman. She was cutting up meat with a huge knife when he arrived, and when his purpose was made known to her she resisted arrest and threatened to cut him with the carving knife. Policemen were sent for and the furious woman was taken to the West Thirtieth street station and later to court, where she was released in \$300 bail, furnished by Mayer, the brewer.

At her saloon yesterday evening she was apparently unconcerned about the cat's death. A friend of hers explained that she threw the cat in the fire in order to put it out of its misery. He said that the animal had been sick and the friend had been nursing it. He further insisted that the complaint and subsequent arrest were due to spite on the part of Buschel.

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HULL'S PLAN FOR NEW ARMY.

His Reorganization Bill Differs Materially from That Framed by Gen. Miles.

IS APPROVED BY ALGER.

Increases Staff Corps and Opens Them to the Volunteers and Civilians.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Representative Hull, chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, to-day introduced a bill increasing the regular army to approximately 100,000 men. The bill was framed at the War Department and has the approval of the Secretary of War. It has not the high rank proposed by the bill framed by General Miles, and some of the appointments are open to officers of volunteers or men from civil life.

The enlisted strength of a regular infantry company is not to exceed 145 men. In case of war, should a greater army be needed, other regiments would be raised. They would probably be volunteers. The regulars, however, would be called upon to meet the first brunt of a conflict. The staff corps are increased about 40 per cent, and with the exception of the Adjutant-General, Inspector-General and ordnance are open to appointments from the volunteer or civil life.

The most noticeable change is in that of the medical department, in which provision is made for a hospital corps of 3,000 enlisted men, with non-commissioned officers and a largely increased number of surgeons and assistants. Officers and men serving in the sub-tropical countries are to have an increase of 25 per cent in pay. Inhabitants of the new countries may be enlisted in the organization serving there.

Chairman Hull's bill is cast on entirely different lines from General Miles's bill, so detailed comparison is difficult. The Miles bill provides for a general and for two lieutenant-generals, while the Hull bill makes no provision for a general and has but one lieutenant-general. Other im-

portant differences are: Hull bill, thirty regiments of infantry; Miles bill, fifty regiments; Hull, twelve regiments of cavalry; Miles, fifteen regiments of cavalry; Hull, a corps of artillery consisting of 144 batteries for sea-coast and twenty-four for field service; Miles, fourteen regiments of sea-coast artillery and two regiments of field artillery.

The general make-up of regiments provided by the two bills is nearly the same.

Must Prove Her Good Character. The decision of Judge McCarthy granting an order in the breach of promise suit of Blanche A. Burnell against William S. Coles, for the appointment of a commission to take testimony in Boston concerning the plaintiff's character, has been confirmed by the City Court, General Term. The order was asked for by Coles. The plaintiff asks \$30,000 damages. Coles, who, it is said, inherited \$500,000 from his aunt, Mrs. W. S. Coles, admits an engagement to the plaintiff, but says it was broken because of information received relative to her past life in Boston.

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THE DOCTORS WHO CURE.

Mrs. Angeline Rader, No. 41 E. 18th St., Paterson, N. J., Who Was Almost Totally Deaf, Tells How She Can Now Hear a Whisper:

"One evening I was sitting on the piazza with my husband. I distinctly heard singing. I asked him if he heard the music."



MRS. ANGELINE RADER.

He said: "Why, yes; it is the singing society rehearsing across the way." Then I knew that my hearing was returning after many patient months of treatment.

"My right ear had been deaf for twenty years and finally became stone deaf. Then my left ear became so deaf I couldn't hear the conversation among members of my family. At church I couldn't hear anything the preacher said. One day while going to Doctor Copeland's office I narrowly escaped being run down by a cable car at Fourteenth street because I couldn't hear the clang of the gong."

"After my hearing began to improve it grew better daily until now not a sound, not a word, not even a whisper escapes me."

One Month Free.

All patients beginning treatment or renewing treatment before January 1st, at either office of the Copeland Medical Institute, 79 Fifth avenue, between 15th and 16th streets, or corner 42d street and Madison avenue, will receive one month's medicine and treatment absolutely without pay or compensation of any kind.

The Copeland Medical Institute.

W. H. COPELAND, M. D., Consulting Physician.
E. E. GARDNER, M. D., Consulting Physician.

Office Hours—Daily, 9 A. M. to 1 P. M., 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 P. M. Sundays, 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.

CEYLON and INDIA TEA.

Machine-made. Unadulterated. Wholesale. All good grocers keep it.

LIPTON'S

TO BE HAD OF ALL GROCERS.

Use Woodbury's Facial Soap. Use Woodbury's Facial Cream.

Skin diseases, scaly eruptions, pimples, blackheads, etc., are cured by using WOODBURY'S, 127 W. 42d St., New York, and 163 State St., Chicago. Send 10 cents for Beauty Book, and receive sample each of Facial Soap and Cream, free.

Dr. Ricord's Essence of Life

restores vitality and the vigor of youth in four weeks; failure impossible; this remedy should be taken by all those who have become weakened, aged, or infirm. Send stamp for circular, D. A. RICORD, sole agent, 50 WEST 93D ST., NEW YORK.

MEN'S DISEASES.

All secret and private ailments of men cured in a few days; skin troubles, blood poisoning, nervous debility, and general weakness restored. Do to the Hallett New York Medical Institute and consult the great blood and nerve specialist, 116 East 10th St., near 1st Ave. Charges unless cured: 50c, 9 to 10. Sundays included.

PLAN ADOPTED BY PHYSICIANS

Which Will Prevent Coughs, Colds, Catarrh, Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Consumption.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC REQUESTED TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES.

HOW TO CURE A COLD OVER NIGHT: Particular attention should be given to these directions, as pneumonia, bronchitis and catarrh generally have their origin in a cold. When you notice the first symptoms of a cold, go at once to the nearest drugstore and purchase a trial outfit of "Hymel" (25 cents); use this inhaler, which can be carried in the vest pocket, for ten minutes every hour (often, if desired), and on retiring moisten a piece of dandelion with from ten to fifteen drops of Hymel and pin to the night robe. This will positively cure any common cold before morning.

FOR BRONCHITIS: Place the Inhaler in the mouth, and by breathing naturally allow the germicide to pass back and forth through the bronchial tubes for ten minutes; this should be repeated at least twice every hour until cure is effected. In severe cases the throat should be rubbed with Hymel Balm on retiring. These directions followed carefully will relieve the worst case of Bronchitis in a few hours, and cure the disease in a short time. In fact, a few moments' inhalation, now and then, through the day, will prevent any possibility of your being afflicted with this disease.

CROUP: Parents need have no fear of this dread disease with "Hymel" in the house. Twenty drops placed on a dandelion and pinned to the child's night robe, with an application of Hymel Balm (referred to) to the throat, will at once give relief and break up the disease within an hour.

CONSUMPTION: Full directions regarding the treatment and cure of this terrible scourge can be found at any drugstore in a little book called "The Story of Hymel," or will be sent by mail, free of charge.

"HYMEI" is a new Dry Air Germicide, discovered in Australia, and is the only positive cure for diseases of the respiratory organs ever found.

FREE TREATMENT WITH "HYMEI" will be given daily at the office of R. T. Booth Co., to all sufferers from diseases of the respiratory organs. You can come every day or every week; nothing whatever will be charged for treatment.

HYMEI BALM (a wonderful healer), 25 cents. HYMEI DYSPPEPSIA CURE, guaranteed, 50 cents. Send for folder and the "Story of Hymel." At all drugstores or by mail on receipt of price. Demonstration and Free Distribution of samples this week at A. B. Balzaly's Drug Store, Lenox avenue and 117th street.

R. T. BOOTH CO., 18 West 34th St. (Astor Court Building), N. Y.



HEARS ONLY PRAISE.

I am a drug clerk, selling the Tabules every day, and I take great pleasure in recommending them whenever opportunity offers. I hear only praise from all who have used them. My mother had been suffering from habitual constipation for a number of years, and has tried almost everything used for that complaint, but without success. I had her try Ripans Tabules a few weeks ago, when she was suffering from a severe attack of dyspepsia, and they gave her immediate relief, and I am sure saved her from calling in a physician. She is still using the Tabules, and says she would not be without them for a good deal of money. She has been free from constipation for the past two weeks, which she says is something she has been unable to say for some years, and all due to Ripans Tabules. My mother's age is fifty-two years.